

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-10 (Cancelled).

Claim 11 (New): An aqueous dispersion of a water-soluble polymer of N-vinylformamide and/or of N-vinylacetamide, wherein the dispersion contains, based on 100 parts by weight of water, 1 - 10 $\mu$ m particles of:

(A) from 5 to 80 parts by weight of a water-soluble polymer containing N-vinylformamide units and/or N-vinylacetamide units, and

(B) from 1 to 50 parts by weight of at least one polymeric dispersant which is incompatible with the water-soluble polymer (A) in aqueous solution,

wherein said dispersion is substantially free of stabilizing inorganic salt.

Claim 12 (New): An aqueous dispersion of a water-soluble polymer as claimed in claim 11, wherein the dispersion contains, based on 100 parts by weight of water,

(A) from 10 to 50 parts by weight of a water-soluble polymer containing N-vinylformamide units and/or N-vinylacetamide units and

(B) from 5 to 40 parts by weight of at least one polymeric dispersant.

Claim 13 (New): An aqueous dispersion of a water-soluble polymer as claimed in claim 11, wherein the dispersion contains as component (A) a homopolymer of N-vinylformamide.

Claim 14 (New): An aqueous dispersion of a water-soluble polymer as claimed in claim 11, wherein the N-vinylformamide units and/or vinylacetamide units of the polymer (A) have been partially or completely converted into a polymer containing vinylamine units by hydrolysis with acids or bases.

Claim 15 (New): An aqueous dispersion of a water-soluble polymer as claimed in claim 11, wherein said at least one polymeric dispersant is selected from the group consisting of carboxymethylcellulose, water-soluble starch, starch esters, starch xanthogenates, starch acetates, dextran, polyalkylene glycols, polyvinyl acetate, polyvinyl alcohol, polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyvinylpyridine, polyethyleneimine, polyvinylimidazole, polyvinylsuccinimide, a 1:1 molar ratio copolymer of N-vinylcaprolactam and N-vinylacetamide, polydiallyldimethylammonium chloride, and mixtures thereof.

### **Support for Amendments**

New Claims 11-15 find support in cancelled Claims 1- 10 and in the specification. No new matter has been entered.